

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

23

DECISION

TOPIC

Final Rule--Chapter 107, Rabbit and Squirrel Hunting

The Commission is requested to adopt a final rule to amend Chapter 107, "Rabbit and Squirrel Hunting." These amendments change the beginning date for the cottontail rabbit and squirrel hunting seasons to the Saturday before Labor Day. One comment was received in support of the proposed changes.

Ken Herring, Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
Attachment
May 10, 2007

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby amends Chapter 107, "Rabbit and Squirrel Hunting", Iowa Administrative Code.

Chapter 107 establishes the regulations for hunting rabbits and squirrels and include season dates, bag limits, possession limits and shooting hours. These amendments change the beginning date for cottontail rabbit and squirrel hunting seasons to the Saturday before Labor Day.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on March 28, 2007, as ARC 5796B. A public hearing was held on April 19, 2007, and one comment was received in support of the changes. One comment was received by phone requesting that rabbit hunting hours be extended to one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.5, 481A.6, 481A.8 and 481A.39.

These amendments shall become effective July 11, 2007.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571--107.1(481A) as follows:

571--107.1(481A) Cottontail rabbit season. Open season for hunting cottontail rabbits shall be from the ~~first day of September~~ Saturday before Labor Day through February 28 of the succeeding year. Bag limit shall be 10 per day; possession limit 20. Legal hunting hours shall be from sunrise to sunset. Entire state open.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 571--107.3(481A) as follows:

571--107.3(481A) Squirrel season. Open season for hunting squirrels (fox and gray) shall be from the ~~first day of September~~ Saturday before Labor Day through January 31 of the succeeding year. Bag limit shall be 6 squirrels per day; possession limit 12. Entire state open.

Date

Richard A. Leopold, Director

(N:107F.doc)